

Rio de Flag Flood Control Project

- Monthly Update -

The Rio de Flag Flood Control Project is a twenty-year effort between the City of Flagstaff and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prevent life/safety hazards and property damage caused by significant flood events in Flagstaff. It is a \$122M project with 65% of funding provided by the Army Corps. Construction along the Rio de Flag and Clay Avenue Wash will increase the capacity of the channel and significantly reduce flooding in neighborhoods such as Southside.

Once completed, this project has the potential to prevent damage to approximately 1,500 structures in Flagstaff, valued at over \$916M. The Project will also remove the probability of \$93M in economic damages due to flooding and remove restrictive requirements for floodplain redevelopment.

Visit www.riodeflagfloodcontrol.com

- Sign up for monthly newsletters by emailing: news@riodeflagfloodcontrol.com
- Tour a Virtual Meeting Room with project exhibits (photo and video simulations)
- Watch a Southside Community Interview
- View Project Maps & FAQs
- City Council presentation updates

May 2021 Update

Design - Work continues on the construction documents and design completion between the City's and Army Corps' consultants, including the channel crossing on ADOT right-of-way at the Milton Road and Butler Avenue intersection, utility relocations, and design of the project on BNSF Railway property.

- BG Owen and COL Balten made a visit to Flagstaff on April 7th and 8th and were attended by Senator Kelly's staffer Coral Evans, Mayor Deasy and Council Members Aslan and Shimoni. The following are key action items:
 - Re-evaluate risk of the tunneling and shoofly requirement and continue to work on approval from BNSF up their chain.
 - Refine the most recent Lone Tree Overpass track iteration to address BNSF's comments.
 - Develop preliminary grade concept (Phase I) for the North shoofly option.
 - Continue to work on discerning RDF mitigation measures from LTO.
 - Investigate other partnerships and support – ADOT, NAU, Congressional delegation, Metro Plan, Mountain Line and Amtrak.
 - Investigate potential partnership with BNSF on federal grants.
 - Set up regular meeting schedule with DVD and Corps team
 - Plan for future visit to BNSF Headquarters in Fort Worth, TX.

Real Estate - On April 12th we received the Take Letter from the USACE.

- Seeking clarification from USACE, progress is limited until we have clear direction on how to proceed.
- Legal descriptions, encumbrance maps, and utility easements are currently being developed for property acquisition based on the gross take.
- Developing segment maps.
- Updating the project schedule.

BNSF Railway - The City is currently negotiating BNSF project mitigation measures including:

- Held a kick-off meeting on April 27 that included BNSF, ADOT, and Metro Plan for the concept development for reconstruction of the Milton Bridge (north alignment).
- Work continues to determine required mitigation that is focused on the need for 6½ mile of siding track (impacts all 5 at-grade crossings).
- Met with Mountain Line and Amtrak to discuss collocation at the proposed Downtown Connection Center.
- Met with ADOT and BNSF to discuss a potential RAISE Grant opportunity for project planning.
- Working with BNSF, MetroPlan and Mountain Line to submit RAISE Grant by the July 12th, 2021 deadline.

Stay tuned for future monthly updates!